

## CLAIMS

1. Cancelled

2. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device in combination with a skewer as claimed in Claim [[1]] 21, ~~characterised in that the food engaging surface is a front face of a plate~~ wherein each of said plates includes a food engaging surface.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device in combination with a skewer as claimed in Claim 2, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein each of said plates ~~plate~~ is regular polygonal in shape.

5. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device in combination with a skewer as claimed in Claim 4, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein each of said plates ~~plate~~ is hexagonal.

6. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device in combination with a skewer as claimed in Claim [[1]] 21, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said gripping means includes a hollow locating portion within which the skewer can slide ~~when the gripping means is in the first configuration.~~

7. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device in combination with a skewer as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said gripping means includes a clamping screw receivable within a threaded radial aperture of ~~the~~ said locating portion.

8. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device in combination with a skewer as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said clamping screw has a bulbous head.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method of arranging foodstuffs on a skewer, ~~the method including~~ comprising the steps of:

locating a first gripping device on a skewer adjacent a first end of the skewer, the first gripping device having a food engaging surface and an outer periphery, said outer periphery of said first gripping device includes planar edge surfaces equally spaced apart a distance from the central portion of the gripping device such that the food engaging surface is oriented towards a second end of ~~the~~ said skewer;

introducing foodstuffs onto the second end of ~~the~~ said skewer; and

locating a second gripping device on ~~the~~ said skewer adjacent ~~the~~ said second end, the second gripping device having a food engaging surface and an outer periphery, said outer periphery of said first gripping device includes planar edge surfaces equally spaced apart a distance from the central portion of the gripping device such that the food engaging surface is oriented towards the first end of the skewer; said food engaging surface of said second gripping device is located substantially at said second end; said food engaging surface of said first gripping device is located substantially at said first end; said foodstuffs extend continuously between said first gripping device at said first end to said second gripping device at said second end; whereby a clamping force is provided between the respective food engaging surfaces to maintain the foodstuffs in position relative to ~~the~~ said skewer.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of arranging foodstuffs on a skewer as claimed in claim 11, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said outer peripheries of ~~the~~ said first and second gripping devices extend around the said skewer, and the foodstuffs do

not extend past a ~~minimum distance between the skewer and the~~ said outer peripheries.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device in combination with a skewer as claimed in Claim 2, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said gripping means includes a hollow locating portion within which the skewer can slide ~~when the gripping means is in the first configuration.~~

16. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device in combination with a skewer as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said gripping means includes a clamping screw receivable within a threaded radial aperture of the locating portion.

17. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device as in combination with a skewer claimed in claim 16, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said clamping screw has a bulbous head.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device as claimed in Claim 4 ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said gripping means includes a hollow locating portion within which the skewer can slide ~~when the gripping means is in the first configuration.~~

20. (Currently Amended) A skewer gripping device as claimed in Claim 5 ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said gripping means includes a hollow locating portion within which the skewer can slide ~~when the gripping means is in the first configuration.~~

21. (New) A skewer gripping device in combination with a skewer, comprising:  
a pair of plates for receiving said skewer;  
each of said plates includes a front surface, a rear surface and a central portion;

said front and said rear surfaces of each of said plates terminating in an outer periphery;

said outer periphery of said plate includes planar edge surfaces equally spaced apart a distance from said central portion of said plate;

each of said plates includes a central aperture and an integral gripping means;

each of said integral gripping means includes a substantially cylindrical portion concentric with said central aperture of said plate;

each of said substantially cylindrical portions of each of said gripping means extends from said rear surface of each of said plates and communicates with each of said central apertures of each of said plates;

said skewer residing partially within each of said substantially cylindrical portions and each of said concentric central apertures of each of said integral gripping means of said plates;

each of said gripping means slidably adjustable with respect to said skewer, said gripping means capable of being affixed to said skewer;

one of said planar edge surfaces of said outer periphery of each of said plates engaging a heated surface providing a stable angular orientation of each of said plates, said gripping means and said skewer with respect to said heated surface; and,

said skewer residing spaced apart from and supported above said heated surface.